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| APPLICATION NO.   | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/812,331  | 03/29/2004  | Shih-Lung Weng       | 250209-1190         | 2709             |
| 24504   | 7590        | 09/21/2005           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, LLP<br>100 GALLERIA PARKWAY, NW<br>STE 1750<br>ATLANTA, GA 30339-5948 |             |                      | WRIGHT, INGRID D    |                  |
|   |             | ART UNIT             | PAPER NUMBER        |                  |
|   |             | 2835                 |                     |                  |

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                              |                 |              |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
|                              | 10/812,331      | WENG ET AL.  |
|                              | Examiner        | Art Unit     |
|                              | Ingrid Wright   | 2835         |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 March 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                                   2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-3,8-12 and 16-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 4,5,6,7,13,14,15,20 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 3/29/04 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
|   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.                                   |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 8-12,16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Koshika (US 67404623 B1).

With respect to claim 1, Koshika teaches (Fig. 8) a electronic device (50) having a first housing (12), a second housing (20) having a front panel (23a) and a side panel (inner wall of compartment (24)), rotatably disposed in the sunken part between a first position and a second position; a display module (23) disposed on the front panel (23a), an elastic device (30) for returning the second housing (20) from the second position to the first position and a second housing (20) having a sunken part, wherein the sunken part includes an inner front wall (not labeled) and an inner side wall (not labeled) and a protrusion (36a) slidably disposed on the side panel (not labeled) of the second housing (20), a first housing (12) having a sunken part, wherein the sunken part includes an inner front wall and an inner side wall (inner wall of compartment (24)), and a guide track (34) disposed on the inner side wall (not labeled) of the first housing (12), wherein the guide track (34) includes a first fixer (26a) and a second fixer (26c), and

wherein when the second housing (20) is rotated, the protrusion (36a) moves between the first fixer (26a) and the second fixer (26c) along the guide track (34), wherein when the protrusion (36a) is coupled to the first fixer (26a), the second housing (20) is located in the first position, and the display module faces a first direction, and wherein when the protrusion (36a) is coupled to the second fixer (26c), the second housing (20) is located in the second position (26a), and the display module faces a second direction.

With respect to claim 2, Koshika teaches (Fig. 4,5) the elastic device (30) is an axial elastic device, wherein the axial elastic device (30) couples the side panel (not labeled) and the inner side wall (not labeled) for forming an axle of the second housing (20), wherein the axial elastic device (30) provides a force for driving the second housing (20) to rotate from the second position to the first position after the protrusion (36a) is decoupled to the second fixer (26c).

With respect to claim 8, Koshika teaches (Fig.4,5) the second housing (20) includes another side panel (not labeled) and the sunken part includes another inner side wall (inner wall of compartment (24)), and wherein the another side panel (not labeled) is rotatably coupled to the another inner side wall (inner wall of compartment (24)).

With respect to claim 9, Koshika teaches (Fig. 8) display module is a liquid

crystal display module (LCM).

With respect to claim 10, Kioshika teaches (Fig. ) a pivot device (28) for rotating a second housing (20) in a sunken part, wherein the sunken part includes an inner front wall (not labeled) and an inner side wall (not labeled), wherein the second housing (20) includes a front panel (23a) and a side panel (not labeled), wherein the pivot device comprises: an elastic device (30) for returning the second housing (20) rotate from a second position to a first position; a protrusion (36a) slidably disposed on the side panel (not labeled) and a guide track (34) disposed on the inner side wall (not labeled), wherein the guide track (34) includes a first fixer (26a) and a second fixer (26c), and wherein when the second housing (20) is rotated, the protrusion (36a) moves between the first fixer(26a) and the second fixer (26c) along the guide track (34), wherein when the protrusion (36a) is coupled to the first fixer (26a), the second housing (20) is located in the first position, and the front panel (23a) faces a first direction, and wherein when the protrusion is coupled to the second fixer (26c), the second housing (20) is located in the second position, and the front panel (23a) faces a second direction.

With respect to claim 11, Koshika teaches (Fig. 4,5) the elastic device (30) is an axial elastic device, wherein the axial elastic device (30) couples the side panel and the inner bottom wall (of element (24)) for forming an axle for the second housing (20), wherein the axial elastic device (30) provides a force for driving the second housing (20) to rotate from the second position to the first position after the protrusion (36a) is

decoupled to the second fixer (26c).

With respect to claim 16, Koshika teaches (Fig. 8) the front panel (23a) comprises a display module.

With respect to claim 17, Koshika teaches (Fig. 4,5,8) an electronic device (50) comprising a first housing (12) having a sunken part, wherein the sunken part includes an inner front wall (not labeled) and an inner side wall (wall of compartment (24)); a second housing (20) having a front panel (23a) and a side panel (not labeled), rotatably disposed in the sunken part between a first position and a second position, an elastic device (30) for returning the second housing (20) from the second position to the first position, a protrusion (36a) slidably disposed on the inner side wall (24) of the first housing (12) and a guide track (34) disposed on the side panel (not labeled) of the second housing (20), wherein the guide track (34) includes a first fixer (26a) and a second fixer (26c), and wherein when the second housing (20) is rotated, the protrusion (36a) moves between the first fixer (26a) and the second fixer (26c) along the guide track (34); wherein when the protrusion (36a) is coupled to the first fixer (26a), the second housing (20) is located in the first position, and wherein when the protrusion (36a) is coupled to the second fixer (26c), the second housing (20) is located in the second position.

With respect to claim 18, Koshika teaches (Fig. 4,5) the elastic device (30) is an

axial elastic device, wherein the axial elastic device couples the (bottom wall of compartment (24)) and the inner side wall for forming an axle of the second housing (20), wherein the axial elastic device (30) provides a force for driving the second housing (20) to rotate from the second position to the first position after the protrusion (36a) is decoupled to the second fixer (26c).

With respect to claim19, Koshika teaches (Fig. 4,5) a slide (32) having the protrusion (36a) and movably disposed and an elastic spring device (30), one end of which is fixed to the first housing (12), and the other end of which is connected to the slide.

Koshika teaches (Fig. 4,5) a tab (26) rather than a groove formed on the inner panel of the second housing.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3,12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koshika (US 6404623 B1).

With respect to claim 3, Koshika teaches (Fig. 4,5) a slide (32) having the protrusion and movably disposed and an elastic spring device (30), one end of which is fixed to the second housing (20) and the other end of which is connected to the bottom of a floor (bottom surface of compartment (24)).

Koshika teaches (Fig. 4,5) a tab (26) rather than a groove does not teach a groove formed on the side panel (not labeled) of the second housing (20).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the tab with a groove as an alternate means to slide the engagable portion through, in order to provide a slide mechanism to rotate the display module.

With respect to claim 12, Koshika teaches (Fig.4, 5) the pivot device (28) further comprises a slide (32) having the protrusion (36a) and movably disposed of a flat tab (26); and an elastic spring device (30), one end of which is fixed to the second housing (20), and the other end of which is connected to the surface of (24)

Koshika teaches (Fig. 4,5) a tab (26) rather than a groove formed on the side panel.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to replace the tab with a groove as an alternate means to slide the engagable portion through, in order to provide a slide mechanism to rotate the display module.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

*7/12*  
Claims 4-8, 13-15, 20 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claims 4-7, 13-15, 20, the independent claim 4 recites: "an extending part vertically and internally disposed on the side panel, wherein the extending part has an aperture facing the front panel," claim 5 recites: "a stick, one end of which is connected to the body, and the other end of which penetrates into the aperture," claim 6 recites: "an arc track, a slope track and a bar track," and claim 7 recites: "a bar track," claim 13 recites: "an extending part vertically disposed on the side panel, wherein the extending part has an aperture facing the front panel," claim 14 recites: "a stick, one end of which is connected to the body and the other end of which penetrates into the

aperture," claim 15 recites: "an arc track, a slope track, a bar track," and claim 20 recites: "an arc track, a slope track and a bar track." The aforementioned limitations in combination with all remaining limitations of claims 4-7,13-15,20 are believed to render the claims 4-7,13-15,20 and all claims dependent therefrom patentable over the art of record.

***Conclusion***

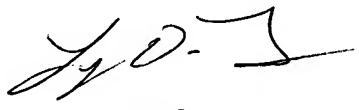
4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Numano et al. US 6744623 B2, Stephany et al. US 2005/0141181 A1 & Lee 20050153668 A1 show the state of the art regarding rotatable display modules in computer or electronic device configurations.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ingrid Wright whose telephone number is (571) 272-8392. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on (571) 272-2800, ext 35. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

IDW



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